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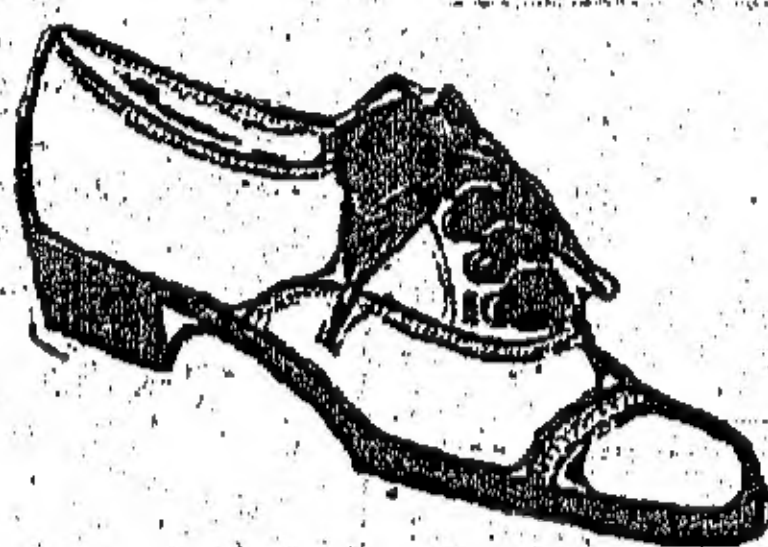
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HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

CONSCRIPTION BILL PASSED.

UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS FORCE A DIVISION ON THE
THIRD READING.

QUESTION OF BRITISH TRADE INTERESTS IN THE FAR EAST.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held yesterday afternoon at the Council Chambers.

The following were present:—
His Excellency THE GOVERNOR, Sir
FRANCIS HENRY MAY, K.C.M.G.

His Excellency MAJOR-GENERAL F.
VENTRIS (General Officer Commanding
Troops in China).

Hon. Mr. CLAUD SEVERN, C.M.G.
(Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. J. H. KEMP (Attorney-
General).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial
Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. E. R. HALLIDAY (Secretary
for Chinese Affairs).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G.
(Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. M. L. MESSER (Captain
Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. E. SHELLEN.

Hon. Mr. D. LANDALE.

Hon. Mr. LAU CHU PAK.

Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK.

Hon. Mr. Ho Fook.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of
Council).

There were also present in the Council
Chamber eight or ten members of the
public, including Mr. A. H. Harris, Mr.
F. C. Jenkin, Mr. Eldon Potter and Mr.
Crew.

The Colonial Secretary, by command
of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table
the report of the Superintendent of
Imports and Exports for the year 1917.

The Colonial Secretary, by command
of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table
the report of the proceedings of the
Finance Committee No. 4, and moved that
it be adopted.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded, and
this was agreed to.

QUESTIONS BY MR. POLLOCK.

The Hon. Mr. POLLOCK asked the
following questions:—

1. Will men, who are eligible for
service under the General Military Service
Ordinance, and who are either—

(a) Members of the Belchers 6-inch
section who have been through special
training there and have passed in gun-
nery tests; or

(b) Men of the Engineer Section who
have passed in the required tests,

be given the opportunity of proceeding
to England and of there joining up with
some unit in which their training here
will be of use to them and to the Empire?

2. Will men who joined any of the
various branches of the Volunteer Forces
of this Colony either before the War or
within 3 months after its commencement,
and have not been home for over 5 years,
be given the option of proceeding to Eng-
land to join up?

3. As regards Government Civil Ser-
vants:—

(i) Will not those Civil Servants who
have left for home, under the express
undertaking of the Government of this
Colony to the effect that their Military
pay shall be made up to their full Civil
pay, be given the benefit of that under-
taking and not be compelled to come in,
taking that will be contrary to the
said undertaking, under the new scheme
for separation allowances, insurance, etc.?

(ii) Will all Civil Servants who have
gone home to fight, other than those fall-
ing under the above head (i), and, if not,
what classes of such Civil Servants, be
allowed to enjoy the privileges under the
new scheme?

(iii) Will the Government, in the case
of those who have left, or may leave, the
Colony of War Service, take steps for the
purpose of insuring that their rights
under the Widows and Orphans Pension
Ordinance or regulations are not lost or
prejudiced by any omission to keep up
the periodical payments to the Fund?

The Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY replied
as follows:—

1. This is a question for the Military
Authorities to decide. This Government
is not prepared to make representations
on the subject.

2. It is not proposed to give such
option, except in the case of men who
applied to the Military Service Commis-
sion prior to the 20th May, 1918.

3. (i) The answer is in the affirmative.
(ii) All Civil Servants who have gone
home to fight fall under Head (i). Civil
Servants now in the Colony who volun-
teered their services prior to the 20th
May, 1918, will be treated in the same
manner as Civil Servants under Head (i),
with the option, if approved by the
Secretary of State, of coming under the
new scheme, if they prefer it.

(iii) In the case of the officers men-
tioned, subscriptions to the Widows and
Orphans Pensions Fund are and will be
deducted from the pay due to such
officers.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Arising out of the
third part of the answer to question
No. 3 I know that in the case of those
receiving pay the contributions will be
deducted, but I was rather referring to
the fact that there might be cases of
people who were not receiving pay and
yet might have to contribute. I do not
know whether that is so.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—There are no such
cases.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Then there will be
no difficulty.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RESOLUTIONS.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I beg leave to dis-
cuss the three resolutions sent in by the
Chamber of Commerce.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—I do not wish to
avoid discussion, but under the rules of
this Council, it is not in order.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I know it is not
in order, without the sanction of the
Council, but I thought, having regard
to the importance of the matter, the
privilege might be granted.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—I have sent the
reply to the Chamber of Commerce. It is
to the effect:—

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I have that reply.
H.E. the GOVERNOR—All I can add to
that reply is that the Government will
deal sympathetically with the whole
question of separation allowances and, as
at present advised, it is proposed, with
the sanction of the Secretary of State, to
deal with the question of injuries wholly
or partly incapacitating a man under a
pension system; that means to say we
will insure him not only against death
but against injury. The whole thing is
very complicated and we wish to act
fairly as far as we are permitted, and
any proposal we make we will discuss
thoroughly with unofficial members.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—It is not a ques-
tion of married men, but of the depen-
dant on bachelors.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—The pension
scheme we propose to introduce would
cover single men.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I am thinking of
the allowances to a mother or sister re-
maining in the Colony, which ought to
come under the separation allowances as
in the case of married men. The respon-
sibilities are the same.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—I cannot go fur-
ther than to say that we will deal
sympathetically with the representations
made.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Also, there is the
case mentioned since the last meeting of
a widow and children. There will have
to be some provision made in the case of
the children.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—Yes, you might
multiply these cases ad infinitum. It is
a complicated question.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—All I want is an
assurance that these cases will be con-
sidered by the Government with a view to
modifying hardship.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—I think I may say
that every case that is brought before us
we will consider fairly and sympatheti-
cally.

THE CONSCRIPTION BILL.

Council then went into Committee to
consider further the Conscription Bill.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that
clause 2 and 11 of the Bill be re-com-
mitted for the purpose of making certain
amendments.

This was agreed to.

In Clause 2 the definition of "Com-
petent Military Authority" was omitted.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed that
the following should be substituted for
clause 11:—

"(1) The said force shall be called
the General Military Service Force of
Hongkong.

(2) All the provisions of the Army
Act, and of all orders and regulations
for the time being in force thereunder,
and of all other Acts for the time being
amending the Army Act, shall apply to
the General Military Service Force of
Hongkong, and to all persons belonging
to the force, whether within or without
the limits of the Colony, and whether
such persons shall have been transferred
or attached to some other corps or not.

(3) For the purposes of the Army
Act, and of the said orders and regula-
tions, and of any Acts amending the
Army Act, and of this Ordinance, every
person belonging to the force shall be
deemed to have been duly enlisted in
His Majesty's regular forces for general
service with the colours for the period
of the war."

In doing so, he said:—The reason is
that it is thought this new clause will be
more in accordance with the section of
the Army Act on which this legislation to
a certain extent depends, and the new
clause deals with other acts amending
the Army Act and also refers to the Orders
and Regulations made under the Army
Act.

The clause was agreed to.

In clause 4 the words "which shall
contain a substantial commercial
majority" were inserted after the words
Tribunal in sub-section 1, and the words
"but the substantial commercial
majority shall always be maintained"
were inserted after the word "perman-
ently" in sub-section 2.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I beg to move the
recognition of Clause 6 and propose
an amendment to sub-section 4 the
addition of the words "and of British
trade in the Far East." Exemption
would then be allowed "on the ground
that it is expedient in Imperial interests,
or in the essential interests of the Colony
and of British trade in the Far East."

Hon. Mr. LANDALE seconded.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—As regards the
amendment proposed by the hon. member
I had hoped that we had finally got rid
of this clause. It has been the subject of
very long discussion.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—Perhaps I ought to
say that we all thought we had got rid
of it, but we were so deeply concerned by
the words which fell from the hon. and
learned Attorney-General in his com-
ments on the Bill, and which we took to
be more or less inspired by the Govern-
ment, and as a direction for the Govern-
ment, that we felt it was essential to take
exception to them. The words referred
to are these:

"Essential interests mean something
very different from the maintenance of
the present state of affairs. The old
standard of 'Business as usual' which
was swept away in England in the early
days of the war is now to be abandoned
here. Perhaps it has already been
abandoned to a certain extent, but it
now has to be abandoned to a much
more stringent extent."

Now, Sir, I do not think we yield in
patriotism, speaking as the representa-
tive of the Chamber of Commerce, pro-
man here, certainly not to any member
of the Government, but your Excellency
is well aware that from the commence-
ment of the discussion which led to this
Bill a pledge was given by the Govern-
ment that essential commercial interests
should be protected, and we view this
pronouncement of the learned Attorney-
General with considerable feelings of
alarm, the more so because it sounds like
a direction to the Tribunal. There are
two attitudes of mind—one which would
send home every man possible and all
the man-power available at the cost of
all commercial interests, and the other
which would maintain those commercial
interests which, by their large contribu-
tions in the shape of excess profits year
by year are helping to carry on the war.

While we do not want to keep one man
who can be spared, we must protect
against the doctrine of obtaining men at
any cost, because we think that is
economically unsound in the interests of
the nation. We have again and again
reiterated the view that labour trained
and specialised here should be used for
increasingly aggressive opposition and
competition from friendly, but neverthe-
less competitive, nations, and it must
have an adverse effect on the trade of the
Colony if it is to be denied of the head-
quarters of departments without whom no
business can be run. We feel strongly,
also, that it is essential to protect the
small businesses which are British, some
of which may have been recently estab-
lished, while others are of ancient growth
though perhaps not large, and the
removal of any man from a small busi-
ness is likely to be very adverse to
British interests in the long run. I
should not have mentioned this if it
had not been for the fact that the hon.
and learned Attorney-General had
not laid such stress on the fact that the
days have changed and that the spirit of
the appeal is now not to maintain our
economic strength, but to obtain man-
power. Whilst that is true at home it
must also be remembered that every man
you take from this place is highly trained
and represents specialized labour of
economic value which it will take years
to replace. We, therefore, want an
assurance before the Bill passes—and with-
out which assurance we cannot see our
way to pass it—that the really essential
economic interests of the Colony and of
the Empire, as distinguished from the
taxes flow, enabling us to pay the large
contributions year by year to the
Imperial coffers which we have done
since the war began, and the excess profits
taxes which have been paid by many
firms year by year at home, shall be
maintained. I sound this note of warn-
ing as the Attorney-General in his
speech last Thursday seemed to lay great
stress on the question and appeared to
take the view then that it was no longer
a case of protecting trade as opposed to
man-power, and that man must be
obtained at all cost. It is distasteful to
me to argue on these lines and to admit
that it sounds unpatriotic, but from my
soul and from my deepest convictions I
am convinced that the soundest policy in
the interests of our Empire is to main-
tain our trade, that we may continue our
contributions to Imperial War Funds,
both here and at home.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—What are the
precise words you wish added?

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—"And of British
trade in the Far East."

Hon. Mr. LANDALE—I seconded this
amendment, and I would like to explain
my reasons for doing so. When the
Chamber of Commerce suggested this
measure they did so for two reasons—that
as many men as could be spared to go
and fight should go, and that as it was
necessary to retain here a certain num-
ber of men, those men should be satisfied
that they were doing their duty and be
protected from the imputations being made
against them. The Attorney-General
seems to have failed to realise this latter
object of the Chamber of Commerce, and
I am not quite sure whether the Govern-
ment understands it, or have been misled
on the point. There is no doubt that the
Chamber of Commerce intended those
required for trade in the Far East to be
exempt under the Bill.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—Why did they not
say so?

Hon. Mr. LANDALE—I think they did
quite clearly. If the local Government
agree with this it ought to be in the Bill.
If it does not, then the matter ought to
be referred back to the Secretary of State
for the Colonies and let us find out where
we stand. I do not think that as a result
of this Bill there will be any large addi-
tion to the fighting forces, as the large
majority of those who can be spared have
long since joined the army.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—I would like to
point out that the remarks of the hon.
and learned Attorney-General at the last
meeting of this Council went a very great
deal further than his remarks at the first
meeting of this Council on the Bill. At
that time he understood that the essential
trade interests of this Colony were to be
preserved, and not only that but the trade
interests controlled from this Colony.
The Attorney-General went much further
at the last meeting of this Council. To

continue reading from where my hon.
friend, who represents the Chamber of
Commerce left off, the Attorney-General,
at the last meeting of the Council, made
use of the following expression:—

"The larger businesses may have to
be curtailed. New enterprises, however
promising, may have to be restricted,
and in the case of one-man businesses
and occupations it may be that some
of them will have to be closed altogether
for the time being."

Well, Sir, nothing of that, and nothing
resembling it, appeared in the speech of
the Attorney-General when this Bill first
came before this Council, and I think as
the last meeting of the Council when these
words were used was the first intimation
received that the Government intended to
throw overboard the idea of "Business as
usual," and intended to force to the
extremest limit the question of man-power
in disregard of what the Prime Minister
called the contributory help to the war
by means of silver bullets—in view of this
new attitude taken up by the Govern-
ment, I quite agree with what has fallen
from the hon. unofficial member who last
spoke on this matter, and if necessary it
should be brought before the Secretary
of State again, because I think, Sir, as
my hon. friend pointed out, there has been
some genuine apprehension on the
matter. Certainly it was not contem-
plated by the Chamber of Commerce
when it suggested a measure of this kind,
that it should be carried to the extent
that apparently now the Government
intends to carry it. I say the Govern-
ment because I can hardly believe that
the Attorney-General, addressing us last
Thursday, was addressing us on his own.
He was, I think, outlining the policy of
the Government, which policy, I under-
stand from my two colleagues, has come
upon the Chamber of Commerce as a
surprise, as something which they did not
expect.

Hon. Mr. LAU CHU PAK—You should
not have asked for conscription to be
applied to this Colony at all.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—The Govern-
ment, by the remarks of the Attorney-
General on the last reading. What we
are concerned with is the essential
interests of the Colony, and those essen-
tial interests include trade, and include trade
in China controlled from Hongkong.

Now the learned Attorney-General on the
second reading emphasised that it must
not be lost sight of that men are wanted,
and I do not suppose anyone denies that.
Mr. Lloyd George, in a recent speech,
said himself that men were so badly
wanted that if it would have to be said
had to go it would have to be said. You ask
me to put in the words "British trade
in the Far East." I say I cannot put in
those words because they are much too
wide. They might mean anything.

Moreover, I suppose you are as well
aware as I am that they are calling up
men in China itself who are employed
in British trade in and with China. If
you wanted to deal with this question in
a comprehensive manner, including
Hongkong and China, you would have to
have one commission for the two places.

We are only concerned here with our own
trade and in the application of this Act
it is obvious that hundreds, well, I don't
know about hundreds, but will say
some—that some are not essential to the
trade of the Colony or to the Imperial
side of the trade. What the Attorney-
General said was if there was a question
as to what is essential trade, the touch-
stone—that I believe was the word he
used—was as to its Imperial use or
utility. That seems to me a very fair
comment to make. We adopted, after a
long discussion, these words essential
interests of the Colony because they are
wide and elastic. I do not think myself
when the Tribunal and the Council of Ap-
peal get to work any really serious dif-
ficulty will occur in the interpretation of
the term essential interests of the Colony.

I think the Attorney-General, when he
made his second speech, only wanted to
emphasise the fact that we could not con-
sider the mere maintenance of trade. It
is perfectly true that some large busi-
nesses will perhaps have to shed some of
their staffs and that other businesses
which now employ several men might be
carried on by a lesser number.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—It is extremely
doubtful now the staffs have been so
depleted.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—We have to see
what we can get. I abide by what was
stated by the Attorney-General on the
first reading, that essential means the
essential trade of the Colony. There are
some other essential things and we also
recognise that we must take into con-
sideration the trade controlled from
Hongkong. But if the words British
trade in the Far East were added, it
might result in this, that when a certain
firm was called up it could say "Yes, I
have more men here than are necessary,
but they have taken men from Shanghai
and I want to fill up my office there."
That would be a ridiculous state of
affairs.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I do not think
any firm of standing has one man whom
it could afford to transfer to Shanghai,
Hankow or elsewhere.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I wish
to refer to only three points. It is not true
that the policy of the Government is that
men should be obtained at any cost, be-
cause the Bill recognises that men neces-
sary for the essential interests of the
Colony must be retained. It is also not
true that the days for the protection of
trade are passed, for the Bill provides
for the protection of the essential trade
interests of the Colony. But the days
have changed. The need for men is great
and urgent, and it is no longer possible
to maintain trade as it was maintained
a year, or two or three years ago.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I must press the
amendment because it represents the
very strong view of the Chamber of Com-
merce. You cannot separate Hongkong
from Shanghai, or Hankow or Canton.
We are interwoven, an incorporeal
body, continually corresponding, and in
many cases the head of the business is
here. Therefore you cannot separate
British trade in China, as it is insepar-
ably bound up with Hongkong, and to
ignore that would be fatal to British
interests.

Hon. Mr. LANDALE—I think, Sir, you touched on one of the vital points when you referred to the transfer of men. The transfer of men to and from Hongkong is just one of the things we wish covered; otherwise it would make it impossible for Hongkong to do any large business.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—We recognise that trade in China controlled from here is one of our essential interests. Really, gentlemen, we might talk around the subject for a week and not be able to get any more satisfactory definition than that which stands in the Bill. As I said before, that is why we have this Tribunal, in order to arrive at an understanding on what are the essential interests of the trade of Hongkong. I regret that I cannot accept the amendment. I think it is too wide. How could any man say what number of essential British trade interests in the Far East? It is tremendously wide. An argument might be put forward based on trade in Newchwang, with which we might have nothing whatever to do.

Hon. Mr. SELLERS—Would you add the words "essential trade interests controlled from the Colony?"

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—It is not necessary to put those words into the Bill. As I say, when the Government solemnly undertakes to interpret the phrase in a certain way that is as good as its being brought into the Bill. We laid down the form when we included in the term "essential interests" the trade in Hongkong. It is not necessary to put that into the Bill.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—The Chamber of Commerce discussed this in Committee at very considerable length and passed a resolution unanimously that they wished these words in the Bill. If your Excellency refuses to include them I have nothing further to say except that your Excellency places your wisdom above that of the Chamber of Commerce Committee on a matter of trade, and I regret that I must press for a division.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—The amendment is too wide altogether. You wish to divide!

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—Yes.

A division was taken and the amendment was lost, all the unofficial members voting for it.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I must protest against the use of the official majority against what is a specialized opinion from the leading merchants of the Colony, to defeat the unanimous wishes. It is not as though this matter had not been seriously considered, nor as if we had brought this forward without due consideration.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Is the hon. member in order in discussing a clause which has been passed?

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—The amendment is lost.

On the motion of the Attorney-General, the following new clause, No. 4, was added:—

(1.)—It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint three persons, two of whom shall be commercial men, to act as assessors upon appeals to the Governor in Council under the provisions of this Ordinance.

(2.)—Every such assessor shall during his tenure of office as such assessor be entitled to be present at all proceedings whatsoever in any such appeal.

The Bill having passed through Committee the Council resumed, and

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the Bill be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I challenge a division on this.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—I am sorry not to have passed this Bill unanimously. I think that the subject is a difficult one and I think many of the difficulties of which the Chamber of Commerce is afraid will disappear when we come face to face with the problems.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—What we want is protection in the Bill, Sir.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—The honourable member must give us some credit for having experience in drafting a Bill, for seeing the danger of adding lightly new words which may lead us into unforeseen depths. I would ask the honourable member, after the assurance given on the first reading of this Bill and the explanation given at this meeting, to accept the third reading without a division.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—I think we ought to divide on the third reading.

A division was then taken. All the unofficial members voted against the third reading with the exception of the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak.

When the question was put to the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak he asked if it referred to the Bill as a whole, and being informed that it did, he gave his vote in the affirmative.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—There is no further business. The Council stands adjourned *sine die* . I wish to thank honourable members for the patience shown, and the consideration they have given to this Bill. I am quite certain that the legislation we have just passed will result in no inconsiderable addition to the fine contribution in manhood that the Colony has already made to H.M. Army and that the adoption of this Ordinance will redound to the credit of this Colony.

SHELL TRANSPORT SHARES.

Messrs. Vernon & Smyth have received a wire from their London agents announcing the proposed new issue of Shell Transport and Trading Co. shares—three new shares for every five old shares—Ordinary issue, thereby capitalizing £3,000,000 from the reserve, the new shares to be issued as bonus shares to the present shareholders.

It is further proposed to increase the authorized ordinary capital to £12,000,000, which, with the Preferred issue of £3,000,000, will then stand at £15,000,000 instead of £7,000,000, and £3,000,000, respectively, as at present. The meeting to decide this question will be held in London on the 30th inst.

THE CONSCRIPTION BILL. TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In view of interests larger than the interests of the Colony did not you, in April last, address the Government and ask for the introduction of compulsory military service?

At the time of such address, had not the Imperial Government considered it to be not in the Imperial interests to include Hongkong in any system of such service?

Is it not fair to assume that the Imperial Government was much impressed by the nature of this repeated offer by a body of commercial men, and that they "generally approved" your proposal in order to give the Hongkong business man his chance to fight?

Is it not fair to assume that you intended to convey the impression, both here and at home, that you desired that your businesses—your economic trades—should share the burden of conscription?

Is it not a fact that the Governor of the Colony, the Colony's Attorney-General, and the Bill itself left no reasonable doubt that, as desired by you, your businesses—your economic trades—would be fully protected?

Is it not a fact that your Member of the Council on the second and important reading of the Bill, by requesting that commercial men should not be asked on garrison duty in India, and by reminding the Council that it would take years to replace their training when the conscription left us, thereby maintained the supposition that your businesses were going to share the burden of conscription?

Is it not a fact that, on the third reading, or immediately before, your Member stated that he would vote against the Bill, the offspring of your own activities, and did he not do so?

Did he not so vote on your instructions and for the alleged reason that the Government would not add to the existing grounds of exemption the consideration of "the essential interests of British trade in the Far East?"

Was not that reason purely imaginary? Had not the Attorney-General on the second reading stated (for the information, among others, of the proposed Tribunal) that the essential interests of the Colony (matters already provided for) include British trade interests in China which are controlled from Hongkong?

Do you, in face of that statement, coupled with the exemption allowed on grounds of Imperial interests, pretend that from the outset you have not known that "the essential interests of British trade in the Far East" were to be protected?

If so, why have you now gone back on this legislation instigated by yourselves and framed on the lives requested by you?

Is it unfair to assume that you have burnt those economic trade fingers?

Is it not fair to assume that, after all, you do not want your economic trades to suffer, or to share the burden so lightly thrown by you on others?

Is that what your Member indicated when he stated that every firm of any standing "was now so depleted that not one of them could even spare any men for branch offices in the Coast Ports?"

What, anyhow, is the truth of it all?

Did the other Hon. Member (who is also of your Committee) in an unguarded moment tell a half-truth when he stated that a reason for your action was to "free those whom it was necessary to retain from the imputations which were made against them?"

Did you cable that to the Imperial Government?

Need we have gone through all this foolery, listened to a dissertation on the great and pressing Imperial need for men as being the cause of this Bill of yours, bound the Colony to the provision of a section of the most expensive soldiers ever put into fighting kit, for the sake of giving certain members of your firms clean tickets?

Given a substantial commercial majority on the Tribunal, given an Ordinance which provides more for the protection of trade than the provision of men, and given the assurance of the Governor and the Attorney-General that trade in and out of the Colony will be safeguarded, what more did you want, or expect, when you inspired that cable?

F. C. JENKIN.

Hongkong, June 11th, 1918.

SPORT.

LAWN TENNIS.

ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE v. DOCK YARD RECREATION CLUB.

JUNIOR LEAGUE.

In this match the College won by 65 games to 34. Scores:—

H. P. Yew and S. H. Ng beat Black and Parry, 6-5; beat Pilo and Matthews, 8-3; lost to Wright and Hennessy, 5-6.

H. H. Tsai and K. F. Lin beat Black and Parry, 6-5; beat Pilo and Matthews, 8-3; beat Wright and Hennessy, 7-4.

Britton and M. K. Yue beat Black and Parry, 7-4; beat Pilo and Matthews, 9-2; beat Wright and Hennessy, 9-2.

CHINESE Y.M.C.A. v. R.G.A.

In this match on Saturday on the Y.M.C.A. courts the home team won by 73 games to 26. Scores:—

Macdonald and McPherson beat Horp and White, 9-2; beat Turner and Carruthers, 7-4; beat Knight and Dunbar, 10-1.

Chan Chok Sam and Mohler beat Horp and White, 9-2; beat Turner and Carruthers, 7-4; beat Knight and Dunbar, 8-3.

Loh Ching and Lin Yao Hui beat Horp and White, 7-4; beat Turner and Carruthers, 8-3; beat Knight and Dunbar, 8-3.

FATAL BLASTING OPERATIONS EARTH-COOLIE KILLED BY FALLING ROCK

At the Hongkong Magistracy, yesterday, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, in his capacity as Coroner, held an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of a Chinese earth-coolie, who was killed as a result of a piece of rock falling on him while blasting operations were being carried out in Stanley Road on May 23rd.

The following were the jury:—Messrs. A. L. Silva, O. Oliveira and F. M. Smith.

It appeared that on May 23rd certain blasting operations were being carried out on the Stanley Road between Tytan Tuk and Stanley in connection with the construction of the motor-road from Repulse Bay to Tytan Tuk. Deceased and another man, who were not at work at the time, heard blasting going on and, apparently for greater security, rushed into a matted shed. Hardly had they taken shelter when a large piece of rock came through the roof, striking deceased on the head and fracturing his skull. The man died, despite all medical efforts.

A foreman stated that he took all necessary precautions in connection with the blasting. After all the jobs had left the vicinity of the blasting he sounded two warning gongs at both ends of the road. The matted shed was situated 300 feet away from the blasting operations. One witness was of the opinion that the piece of rock was part of a large boulder of bad rock, which broke up into bits when blasted.

The jury brought in a verdict of "Death due to misadventure."

ALLEGED DEFAMATION.

CHINESE CLAIMS \$1,000.

At the Summary Court yesterday, before Mr. Justice Gompertz, Wong Wa-sui, tea-house owner, 40, Krenner Street, Tai Kok Tsui, claimed \$1,000 for libel against Wong Kan.

Mr. Agassiz appeared for plaintiff and Mr. J. H. Gardner for the defendant.

Mr. Agassiz said the defendant sent a petition to the S. C. A. which alleged that plaintiff wanted a monopoly of the tea-house business, that he procured bad characters to assault defendant, that he posted placards about defendant to the effect that he harboured bad characters, ran gambling dens and opium dens, also that he dealt in illicit goods.

Mr. Lindsell was present in Court and stated that the S. C. A. had objected to giving any evidence in the case, on the grounds of public policy, and that the disclosure of the evidence might prove injurious to public interests.

He based his objections on five grounds:—Firstly, that it might injure the friendly relations existing between the Secretariat and the Chinese community; secondly, it would diminish the confidence felt in the Secretariat by the Chinese community; thirdly, it would injuriously affect the gaining of information from the Chinese community by the Secretariat; fourthly, it would lessen the weight of the Secretariat when settling disputes; and, fifthly, it would be very inconvenient that such cases should become numerous.

Mr. Agassiz said that the Secretary of Chinese Affairs had no standing in the matter, but his Lordship pointed out that this argument was premature.

Plaintiff, in the box, denied the allegations.

The hearing was adjourned.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS ISSUED BY MR. F. C. JENKIN, C.S.R.

COMMENDATION.

P.O. 784 Thomas, No. 2 Company, is highly commended by the Captain-Superintendent of Police for prompt action, when off duty, in a case of snatching. (This officer has been previously commended, as recently as April 29th last.)

POLICE SCHOOL.

All ranks below the rank of Inspector are required to pass (not merely attend) an examination on Police Duties and Conduct as laid down in "The Pocket Policeman."

Members (except those on duty) will attend as indicated below. Uniform optional. The examination will take place at the Headquarters Club at 5.45 sharp each evening.

Monday, June 17th.—Water Police and Mounted Police.

Tuesday, June 18th.—No. 2 Platoon.

Wednesday, June 19th.—No. 1 Platoon (except Water Police).

Thursday, June 20th.—No. 3 Platoon.

Friday, June 21st.—No. 7 Platoon.

Mounted Police will be examined particularly on the Traffic Regulations and the Water Police particularly on harbour duties.

Inspectors of Units are required to be in attendance in uniform with their respective units.

Dates for other Units than above will be published.

SERVICE RIFLES.

Members of No. 1 Platoon are requested to draw their Rifles from Armory between 1.15 and 3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11th, or Friday, June 14th.

By Order.

T. F. HOGAN.

A.S.P. (R.) and Adjutant.

June 10th, 1918.

SENIOR VOLLEY BALL LEAGUE FINALS.

Yesterday Queen's College and St. Paul's were opposing teams in the final match of the Senior Volley Ball League. The teams lined up on the Y.M.C.A. playground with equal points, each having lost two games in previous league matches. After a very good game Queen's College scored the shield for the eighth time. Mr. E. W. Tso kindly presented the shield to the winners at the close of the match. There was a good attendance at the game and the War Charities will receive two-thirds of the receipts.

RED CROSS PAGEANT AT CANTON.

In conjunction with the Red Cross drive which has been so successfully carried on throughout the United States, the Canton Chapter of the American Red Cross has done some splendid work. As a final event of the drive in Canton a pageant, in three episodes, illustrating the work of the Red Cross, was held on Saturday. Two performances were given—one at 2.30 in the Club Theatre, but, as the weather was magnificent, the chairs and benches were moved out on the court and the second performance was held in the open air.

Mr. Wallens, as the "Spirit of the World," delivered his lines very impressively. He was dressed in purple and white, as were four small boys, his heralds and trumpeters.

Mrs. J. H. Fong, as the "Spirit of China," spoke a few words in Chinese about the good work of the Red Cross in her native land. She made a striking figure in a costume of bright yellow with the flag draped about her. Miss Nellie Elliott represented the "Spirit of Great Britain," and looked very martial with her bright helmet, shield, and trident.

Miss Landry as the "Spirit of France," spoke so eloquently in her native tongue that no one could fail to understand her plea for her soldiers and her country. When Mrs. Arthur Swan came slowly upon the stage, dressed in a full black belgian's gown and sorrow were brought vividly to mind. Mrs. Moore, the "Spirit of America," looked radiant with hope in her costume of "Old Glory" and her liberty crown.

The "Spirit of Red Cross" was admirably portrayed by Miss Adela Dodge, who wore a white dress and a long bright-red cape. At the end, this cape was turned inside out and proved to be an immense Red Cross flag, eight tiny girls in fluffy dresses, "The Eyes of Love," and eight boys, "Boys Scouts," sought out the suffering, needy and distressed. The little girls, led by Miss Margaret Marr, executed some very pretty dances. Mrs. Warren, as the "Spirit of Japan," Mrs. Edmunds as "Servia," Mrs. Steinhardt as "Armenia," Mrs. Spencer as "Portugal," and Mrs. Groat as "Italy" were most effectively costumed, and their various rôles were well carried out.

In addition to their invaluable assistance in the draping of the flags or nations, which produced a most effective stage setting, the men of an American glee club also took part in a very pretty song-dance, and, sailor-fashion, bore out their reputation of being "handy men" at anything they undertook. One feature of the pageant which was especially impressive was the rendering of the song "Keep the Home Fires Burning." A corps of Red Cross nurses and doctors marched upon the stage singing the song, and the entire cast joined in the chorus, which was completely brought to mind thought of aching hearts and empty benches that there were not many dry eyes in the audience.

The Pageant Committee feels deeply indebted to the Siamese Defence Corps for their assistance; to the corps of Chinese doctors and nurses who appeared in Episode I.; to those who appeared as Belgian refugees; and, in fact, to each and every member of the cast, and to all those who helped to make the Pageant so successful.

The credit of writing the pageant is due to Mrs. E. J. Weekes, Miss Hammer and Mr. J. V. Burrow; and of staging it to Mr. E. J. Weekes.

The proceeds amount to about \$1,500 and are to be devoted to Red Cross needs.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

LOTTERY TICKETS.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of 800 lottery tickets. Defendant was arrested while leaving a Canton steamer with the tickets in his possession.

Mr. J. R. Wood fined defendant \$500, with the alternative of three months' hard labour.

THEFT FROM A STEAMER.

A Chinese youth was charged with stealing a brass lock and knocker from a ship in harbour.

Capt. Spott said he arrested defendant as he was leaving the ship with the articles in his possession.

Defendant stated that he had recently arrived in the Colony from Kowloon in search of employment. He was an orphan and had no place to go to.

Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe sentenced defendant to three months' hard labour.

TRAVELLING WITHOUT PAYING FARES.

Eight Chinese were charged with travelling without paying their fares.

It was stated that defendants travelled on the s.s. *Honam* from Canton to Hongkong and, when called upon by the conductor to produce their tickets, said they were unable to pay their fares.

Mr. J. R. Wood fined five of the defendants \$10 each, with the alternative of 21 days' hard labour, and commencing three defendants, who were youths, \$5 each, or, in default, 14 days' hard labour.

POLICE PROSECUTION FAILS.

A Chinese was charged with stealing half a dozen toy pistols from the Kowloon Godown.

A Chinese watchman stated that while examining the interior of the godown on Saturday night he noticed a Chinese crouching against a wall. Witness went up to him and enquired what he was doing there. Defendant replied that he was a godown coolie and had perfect liberty to enter the premises when he pleased. Witness searched defendant and found several pistols concealed round his waist. He arrested defendant and gave him into the charge of a *lukong* who had arrived on the scene.

Defendant said he was working in the godown that night when the watchman saw him and asked what he was doing there. Defendant was searched and then arrested. He had nothing whatever in his possession.

Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe said he was satisfied that defendant was found in the godown, but he did not believe the evidence that the man committed a larceny. He discharged defendant with a severe caution.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

THE RENOWNED "MAXHED"

OILED SILK
RAINCOATS

FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

THE VERY LIGHTEST RAINCOAT MADE
AND ABSOLUTELY WATERPROOF.

ALL SIZES AND COLOURS.

\$25.00 each.

THE "MAXHED" SHIP'S BRIDGE
BLACK OILSKINS

FOR ROUGH WEAR.

SINGLE, DOUBLE SHOULDERS, \$10.50

DOUBLE THROUGHOUT, \$12.50

AGENTS FOR

BURBERRY'S AND ZAMBRENE'S.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

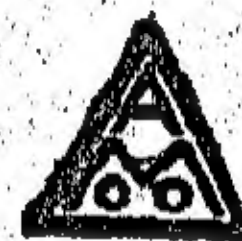
GOING TO BUILD?

COVER IT WITH

Certain-teed
Roofing

A "built-up" roof is the best for any building—office, hotel, godown, residence, garage, factory, out-house. Such a roof made of Certain-teed is durable and gives the maximum of service. Certain-teed is backed with a definite guarantee.

We have an expert crew of men to do the work under foreign supervision. For specifications, estimates, prices, etc., write or call.



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Missions Building,
CANTON.



Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

NEW

GOLF BROGUES
and
SPORT SHOES

FOR

LADIES.

THE "KELTIC" BRAND.

TAN, DARK BROWN, BLACK.

A SNATCHING CASE.

A Chinese was charged with snatching a gold-mounted rattle bracelet from a little girl who was being carried by her mother at Hunghom.

Mr. J. R. Wood sentenced defendant to nine months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

A WARM WELCOME BACK.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of a pistol.

Defendant said he returned to Hongkong on Saturday by a Japanese boat after twenty years' absence in America. The pistol, which was amongst his other luggage, did not belong to him, but to a friend, who asked him to hand it over to one of his relatives in the Colony.

Mr. J. R. Wood fined defendant \$300, and ordered the confiscation of the pistol.

ACCIDENTS.

A little Chinese boy, aged 8 years, has been taken to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries to his head as a result of being knocked down by a private motor-car.

A Chinese man, 37 years of age, has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from lacerated wounds on the right temple and mouth, and two other wounds on the chest, said to have been caused by being knocked down by a motor-car when rounding the bend in Aberdeen Road. The wounds are not considered serious.

A deaf and dumb Chinese male, aged 22 years, has been removed to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries sustained as a result of being knocked down by a Kowloon-Canton train on Saturday.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.

THE OFFICES AND STATIONS of CHINESE MARITIME CUSTOMS for Kowloon and District will be CLOSED to PUBLIC BUSINESS on the 13th instant (5th day, 5th moon), being the date of the SUMMER HOLIDAY.

A. H. HARRIS,
Commissioner of Chinese Customs.
York Buildings,
Hongkong, 10th June, 1918. [2123]

NOTICE TO MOTORISTS.

A MEETING of MOTORISTS will be held on FRIDAY, 14th June, 1918, at 6.15 p.m. at the Offices of Messrs JAMES, MARSH & Co., Ltd., Hongkong, when proposals for the formation of an AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION in Hongkong will be submitted.

All owners of Motor Cars or Motor Cycles are requested to attend.
Hongkong, 10th June, 1918. [2123]

WANTED.

ENGLISH NURSERY GOVERNESS required for little girl four years. Good salary to suitable person. Write, giving full particulars, to—
"P. U. C.,"
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[2124]



GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS for SPECIE and MEXICAN DOLLARS, current in this Colony, for Telegraphic Transfer, on the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, London, up to and for the sum of £20,000, will be received by the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, until 11 o'clock A.M. on the 11th June, 1918.

The tenders to state the total amount (in Pounds Sterling). No Telegraphic Transfer will be made for less than £100.

The tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC."

The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved.

Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application.

"Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that having regard to the provisions of the Acts 22 George III, Cap. 45 and 41, George III, Cap. 52, the acceptance of any such Tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills)."

"The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by any incorporated Company in its corporate capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company."

F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt. Colonel,
Treasury Chest Officer, A.F.D.
His Majesty's Treasury Office,
Hongkong, 11th June, 1918. [2125]

JOINT SERVICE

OF THE
"NEDERLAND" AND "ROTTERDAM"
LOYD ROYAL MAIL LINES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from SAN FRANCISCO, originally Shipped per S.S. "RINDJANI" and S.S. "KAWI" are hereby notified that their Cargoes, having arrived per S.S. "DJEMBEER," will be landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous wharves of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after Noon the 18th June will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 22nd June, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 17th inst., at 10 A.M., by the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

No Insurance whatsoever has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN LUN, Agents.
Hongkong, 10th June, 1918. [2126]

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.
NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "BENRINNES."

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 17th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 24th inst. or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 17th inst., at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 10th June, 1918. [2127]

NEW ADVERTISEMENT

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, On FRIDAY, the 14th June, 1918, commencing at 11 A.M., In Several Lighters off the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co.'s premises (Kowloon), (For account of the concerned), 29, 278 1/2 Sacks Flour, All more or less damaged by Sea-water ex S.S. "Tylaroom".
On view now.
Terms—Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 11th June, 1918. [2128]

INTIMATIONS

NOTICE.

WE HAVE This Day authorised Mr. FRANK MALCOLM LANE CRAWFORD to Sign our Firm per Procuration.
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, 10th June, 1918. [2129]

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
HONGKONG AGENCY.

MR. JOSEPH TOUBET will be in Charge of the above Company's business at this port from To-day until further Notice.
P. THOMAS,
Agent.
Hongkong, 9th June, 1918. [2119]

WANTED.

AN ELECTRICAL or MARINE ENGINEER is required as a Shift Engineer at the Generating Station of the HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD., Wanchai.
Apply in writing accompanied by details of experience and copies of testimonials to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.,
St. George's Buildings,
[2005]

WANTED.

UNENGAGED—Socks Situation. Adapted as Bookkeeper, Correspondent, Fire, Shipping and Imports. Good Outdoor Convoys. Speaks five Chinese dialects. Non-typhoid. Good reference.
Address—
"INMATE,"
15, Peking Road, Top Floor, Kowloon.
[2117]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

UNFURNISHED FLAT in Tregunter Mansions, May Road, from 1st July.
Apply to—
J. ARNOLD,
HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
[2121]

TO LET.

NO. 4, MORRISON HILL, from 1st July.
Apply to—
THE TREASURY.
[2108]

TO LET.

HOUSE at OBSERVATORY VILLAS, Kowloon.
Apply to—
ARRATON V. APCAR & CO.,
Des Vaux Road Central.
[2109]

TO LET.

COMMODIOUS and well-fitted SHOP in Alexandra Buildings.
Apply—
SECRETARY,
A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
[1997]

TO LET.

HOUSES on Shamone, Canton.
No. 67, THE PEAK, LUSTLEIGH.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
[28]

TO LET.

NO. 7, STEWART TERRACE, No. 33, THE PEAK.
4-ROOMED FLAT, No. 58, THE PEAK.
Apply to—
LINDSEY & DAVIS,
3rd Floor Alexandra Buildings.
[2085]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.
A Shop in NATHAN ROAD, Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings.
[2000]

FOR SALE.

"GALESEND," 109, THE PEAK, SIX ROOMS.
Apply—
O. H. GALE,
P.W.D.
[1985]

INTIMATION

WATSON'S FORMAZONE

(REGISTERED).

A Refreshing, Invigorating and Palatable Drink.

Particularly suited for Tennis

Shooting and Bathing

Parties.

PINTS \$1.20 PER DOZ.

SPLITS 70 CTS. " "

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

TEL. 435.

[11]

MARRIAGES.

BLOWN—SWEETINGHAM.—At H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, on June 5th, and afterwards at the Holy Trinity Cathedral before the Very Rev. Dean Walker, OLIVER CROMPTON BLOWN, fourth son of the late Capt. Charles Edward Blown (London Trinity House Pilot) of Deal, Kent, to HELEN BARBARA SWEETINGHAM, eldest daughter of the late Captain Somme, of Cardiff.

FINCH—KAYE.—At H.B.M. Consulate, Shanghai, on June 4th, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, before the Very Rev. Dean Walker, GEORGE THOMAS FINCH, son of the late Roland Finch, to HONOR MAISE BENNETT (née Coutts), widow of the late C. B. Kaye.

PIQUET—HUGHES.—At H.B.M. Consulate, Shanghai, on June 4th, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Very Rev. A. J. Walker, CHARLES PIQUET, to ADELA MARION HUGHES.

DEATHS.

POOLE.—At 89A, Bluff, Yokohama, on June 4th, Mrs. OTIS A. POOLE, of Yokohama, mother of Mrs. N. G. Maitland.

REED.—At Bombay, on May 17th, of cholera, FLORENCE, the beloved wife of CHARLES REED, chief engineer transport *Shinon*.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 101, DES VEAUX ROAD, C.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 11th JUNE, 1918.

SECRET TREATIES.

"As if the tenant in his rags and tatters was not more important for the passing hour than all the starred and ribboned Ambassadors in London." The reference goes back to 1893, when the Liberal Government of the time was trying to pass a Land Bill for the protection of Irish tenants. The leader of the House of Lords, who also held the post of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, did the Bill "rather less than justice," in Lord Morley's opinion, "for he had been busy with foreign affairs all the afternoon," a preoccupation which aroused the caustic comment set forth above. Substituting for the "tenant in his rags and tatters" the ordinary and average man, the remark admits of a wider application. Is not a large part of modern diplomacy an inheritance from feudal times, when the subject was but the lord's

chattel, to be disposed of as he thought fit, and the advantage of the lord—the increase of his wealth and power—and influence—the all-in-all! Apart from its commercial side—the side which concerns itself with the interchange of products, and, generally, seeks to break down those barriers between countries which the other side of diplomacy sets up—the moves of diplomacy are but the moves of the chess-board, a continuous chain of new combinations seeking not the good of all but the good of one at the expense of all, and seeking it in paths along which no good is to be found, but rather ceaseless perplexity and ceaseless sources of strife. It is, perhaps, not going too far to say that it is this side of diplomacy which keeps militarism alive, makes large armies necessary, keeps the nations apart, and makes real understandings impossible. Recently, the curtains have been partly drawn aside by the Bolsheviks and the inner sanctuary of this side of diplomacy has been revealed. We have seen of what poor stuff this diplomacy consists, how capricious and fickle its moves, how little it has to do with the real benefits of humanity. The spectacle of the KAISER and the Tsar concocting schemes of the highest import to their respective countries with the insouciance of schoolboys is not an edifying one. Had the KAISER and the Tsar any special ability for the guidance of their respective States along such dangerous paths, taking it that the paths had to be traversed, which is by no means unarguable? Considered opinion of the KAISER does not credit him with any high intellectual gifts. Judgments, even before the war came to increase prejudices or create them, pronounced him "flighty, ambitious, unsettled," not at all the man to play a delicate game on the diplomatic chess-board, even if the game were worth playing. As for the Tsar, the world has long since measured his weakness and judged him at his true worth. There have been other astonishing revelations owing to the Bolsheviks, revolutions at which Governments have been inclined to look askance, not daring to discuss them or to disown them—tales of bargainings and haggling which give a sinister aspect to many public utterances concerning this war which is to "make the world safe for democracy." The part taken by the people in these negotiations was, of course, nil. The bargaining was done by those supposed to represent them, but who chiefly represented the feudal idea that an increase in the power and influence of the rulers was the end to be sought. Even in those countries where overlordship has faded into a mere formality it is noticeable that diplomacy remains the least affected of all Governmental activities. The power of the secret treaty still reigns there, with all its inherent capacity for plunging peoples into wars which they do not desire and little understand. Whether such secret treaties are binding on the nations which nominally form them is a point which might well be argued. In the Constitution of the United States there is a wise provision that all treaties shall be a part of the supreme law of the land—that is to say, they shall be sanctioned like other laws by the duly elected representatives of the people. This, of course, makes the secret treaty impossible, for, as its provisions are not a part of the law of the land, there is no guarantee that it would be respected. Actually considered, this is the position of all secret treaties; they are not the law of the land, and, consequently, they are made and broken with disastrous frequency and inconsistency. Even treaties which are ultimately communicated to the public would be none the worse for being made a part of the law of the land and receiving the assent of the people's representatives. Time and again it has been shown that the provisions of a treaty have pressed hardly on one section of the people and failed to make for that reciprocity which is the proper aim of such diplomatic documents. The wisdom of the framers of such treaties is not above dispute, and a discussion by the people's representatives would serve to set right such defects. As to the negotiations preceding the formation of treaties, it has been claimed that these at least should be conducted in secret, on the ground that otherwise all bargaining would be impossible. Mr. A. MAURICE LOW, in the *North American Review*—while arguing for the abolition of all secret treaties and advocating the insertion in the peace treaty that is to conclude this war of a provision that in

every country treaties, like laws, shall constitute the supreme law of the land—still thinks that secret negotiations are not only proper, but in certain cases absolutely essential, on the ground that the essence of a good bargain is secrecy and a "certain skill in affecting indifference." Mr. Low would seem not to have shaken himself entirely free from the superstitions of the old régime. If the struggle between nations were a conflict for supremacy then there might be some truth in his contention, but this implies that there can be no perfect reciprocity and that always one nation will have the better of a bargain, achieving it by the methods employed by the Cheap Jack and his customers at a country fair. This is to bring the worst and most discredited feature of commercialism into the diplomatic field—or, rather, to argue for its continued existence there, for, unhappily, diplomatic negotiations are too often considered as successful or otherwise according as one side or the other has got the better of the bargain. Secrecy in negotiations of any kind implies some trespass on the rights of others. The man who is not seeking to take any unfair advantage of the other side or of any outside parties does not regard secrecy as necessary, and in a treaty formed on perfectly reciprocal lines no advantage should be sought or obtained. Perhaps this end is unobtainable, but this is no argument against approximation and persistency in high aims. It is by the denunciation of all secret treaty-making and the demand that all treaties shall be considered as the law of the land, and, therefore, submitted to the peoples' representatives like other laws, that confidence will be re-established among the nations.

Captain A. C. Bryson, formerly in the Peking Syndicate, has been promoted Major in the R.A.M.C. in France.

Owing to St. Anthony's Church being under repair, the feast of St. Anthony will not, the Rector informs us, be celebrated in that church on Sunday next.

At the summit of Henmi Hill, Yokohama, on May 30th, the British Ambassador to Tokio unveiled a monument to the memory of Will Adams, the first British subject to land in Japan.

Mr. T. F. Gilkinson, late of the Customs cruiser service, has been promoted Captain in the Royal Field Artillery and has been awarded the Military Cross with a bar. He was wounded on March 21st, the opening day of the great offensive.

The following cases of communicable diseases were notified in the Colony on Saturday—Cerebro-spinal fever, 3 (3 deaths); bubonic plague, 3 (3 deaths); diphtheria, 1 (1 death); and enteric fever, 1 (death). All the sufferers were Chinese.

Mr. E. F. S. Newman, Acting Postal Commissioner, Changsha, has received His Majesty's licence and authority to wear the Insignia of the Fifth Class of the Order of the Excellent Crop, which the President of the Republic of China has been pleased to confer upon him.

Mr. Charles J. Ferguson, second son of Dr. J. C. Ferguson, of Peking, Second Lieutenant in the 14th Regiment U.S. Reserve Engineers, has been promoted First Lieutenant. In a letter dated March 26th, Lieut. Ferguson said that he had just returned from leave in Paris, arriving at his post the morning of the big drive, and for five days of continuous moving he had not taken off his clothes.

Mr. Denman Fuller will give an organ recital in St. John's Cathedral on Monday next at 6 p.m. Mrs. W. J. Hill will be the vocalist and will sing a number from Gaul's "The Holy City" and a solo by the popular song-writer Dorothy Foster. Most of the organ pieces are being played by request and will include, amongst others, the Intermezzo from "Cavalleria" by Mascagni, the slow movement from Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony," Rachmaninov's Prelude in C sharp minor, an extremely fine Prelude from Rheinberger's Sonata in E flat minor, and the third movement from an organ suite by the recitalist. It will be remembered that the second movement "Out of the Past" was played at the last recital. A collection will be made for the Organ Fund, for which \$2,000 is still wanted to clear off the debt on this fine instrument.

CORRESPONDENCE.
READING MATTER FOR THE TROOPS IN EGYPT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—I beg that you will be so good as to publish the enclosed letters, which I have just received from His Excellency Borton Pasha.

Any papers or books sent to the General Post Office for distribution among the troops will be forwarded to Egypt.

Your readers will see from the enclosed letters how much such reading matter is appreciated and how badly it is needed.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

S. B. C. ROSS
(Postmaster General).
Hongkong, 10th June, 1918.

[ENCLOSURES.]
Egyptian Postal Administration,
Alexandria.

24th April, 1918.

DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in forwarding you a copy of a letter received from the Chairman of the United Services Welfare, which distribute the books and literature so kindly forwarded by your public for the use of the troops in Egypt. Possibly you may like to publish, or circulate this letter, which, I hope, will still further stimulate the despatch of this reading matter which is so much appreciated.

With renewed thanks, believe me, yours truly,
(Sd.) N. T. BORTON,
Postmaster-General, Egypt.
The Postmaster General, Hongkong.

United Services Welfare,
Alexandria.

22nd April, 1918.
DEAR SIR,—The Committee of the United Services Welfare wish to thank you most sincerely for the books, etc., which you send to us from time to time. These books are distributed amongst all the troops in these parts, as also to the Navy, and we get hundreds of letters of appreciation and thanks. It is difficult to procure books here, and your contribution is of the greatest assistance to us in meeting the many requests we get.—Again thanking you.—Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) C. W. STRICKLAND
(Chairman).

H. E. N. T. BORTON PASHA,
Postmaster-General, Egypt.

FIGHTING THE TURKS IN PALESTINE
INTERESTING LETTER FROM LIEUT. H. WHITE.

Second-Lieutenant H. J. White, of the Devonshire Regiment, formerly of the Hongkong Hotel, writing to his mother, Mrs. R. White, of Zetland House, gives a description of the fight in which he was wounded. He says:—

"You will be interested to learn that the wound I received on my right arm in Palestine is getting better daily. I am at present in the Red Cross Hospital at Cairo, where the sisters and nurses are very kind, making things comfortable and homely.

"I promised I would give you a description of the fight we had with the Turks, and here it is:—We were having still fighting all along the line and several officers and men were killed and a good many wounded. Of the five of us who came out from England with my regiment one has made the great sacrifice, while three of us are in Hospital here. The other man has been invalided to England. Poor Floyd was the unfortunate man, but he was killed outright, the bullet passing through his brain. Such a nice young fellow and only nineteen years old! Our Colonel, too, has been sent home with shattered nerves.

The night I was wounded, we set off at about 3 a.m. climbing up hills, crossing valleys—nothing like the ones over in Kowloon; all just cliffs and rocky boulders. By 7 a.m. a few of my men were suffering from sprained ankles, while the rest of us were dog-tired, footsore and weary. At 7.30 a.m. the fun started. We were ordered to attack, and machine-guns began to rattle for all they were worth. We opened our ranks, and no sooner had we done so, than a shell fell just a few feet away from us, but, fortunately, it proved to be a 'dud.' It was awful, and how we managed to get as far as we had without sustaining any casualties passes my comprehension. I guided my platoon to the spot I was ordered, and a few minutes later the Company Commander arrived and, after looking round, asked us to move further down. Well, I got my men together and moved down. Johnny Turk must have seen me, though, because no sooner had I risen to see if my men were all right than bang! my arm went. This was about 10 a.m. My Sergeant was not long in coming up and he dressed my wound. All the while the Turks were battering away at us and dodging our fire. About 2 p.m. I managed to get a stretcher and was carried a mile on it in the pouring rain. From there I was transferred on to a camel and taken to the clearing line, where the doctor dressed my wound properly. My last stage of the journey was in a motor ambulance, and here am I now in a Red Cross Hospital doing extremely well."

"I later heard that we managed to drive the Turks back some distance and gain some ground, so that, after all, my wound is nothing compared to the success we have achieved for Right against Might.

Referring to the Gresson Street tragedy, Lieut. White says: "What a shocking thing! Poor Sullivan and Clarke! Anyhow they did their duty like brave and noble fellows. May they rest in peace."

THE WAR.

THE BATTLES OF THE RIVERS. THE WEIGHT OF ALLIED REINFORCEMENTS.

DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNTS OF THE FIGHTING.

ZEPPELIN BROUGHT DOWN.

IRISH FISHING FLEET SUBMARINED.

Branco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY FIRE
ABOVE NORMAL.

London, June 10th.
1.15 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We successfully raided on the night of June 5th southward of Beaumont-Hamel, capturing 30 prisoners.

In a successful French raid northward of Bailleul, a few prisoners were captured.

We repulsed raids south-eastward and eastward of Arras and in the neighbourhood of Givenchy-lez-La Bassée.

Hostile artillery firing was above normal between Villers-Bretonneux and Albert and between Givenchy and Robecq.

BRITISH DIVISIONS' SHARE IN THE BATTLE.

London, June 10th.
2.20 a.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing yesterday, in furnishing some particulars of the share of the British Divisions in the Aisne battle, states that on the eve of the German attack the 21st and 26th of our divisions were in line with the 25th in reserve. The troops were holding the line pretty thinly, as these divisions had participated in almost incessant hard fighting for two previous months. It was not till the evening of May 26th that the enemy attack was foreseen; then it was well understood that the attack was coming on the morrow. Thereupon the troops were ordered to stand to, and the bombardment opened at one o'clock in the morning.

The infantry attack was launched at early dawn. It is understood that 25 divisions participated and that 100 tanks were employed against the British alone. Our infantry and trench-mortar teams remained at their posts, firing rapidly until the German waves were close up, then they retired systematically after, destroying all the heavy trench-mortars which it was impossible to remove. The 26th division, on which the main weight of the attack fell, included a proportion of new drafts, who fought against overwhelming odds with superb gallantry. The field-guns served their pieces until the enemy hordes were upon them. Then, if unable to remove the guns, they either blew them up or removed the breech-blocks and fought their assailants with revolvers.

EXCELLENT GUNNERY.

London, June 2nd.
10.40 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, states:—There was heavy artillery firing by both sides in the northern areas during the past twenty-four hours. Our gunners have done much excellent counter-battery work, frequently hitting trains, supply columns, moving troops and dumps. Many explosions were noted. One of our big shells killed over 50 horses. Our "heavies" scored several direct hits on enemy big heavy velocity guns.

Enemy airmen on the night of May 31st again bombed a group of hospitals, which were previously visited, and caused many casualties. The machine flew low, one dropping a magnesium flare which burned for a considerable time very brilliantly.

EARLIER CABLES.

A DARING ENTERPRISE.

London, June 3rd.
4.00 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, states:—Our operation in the neighbourhood of Vieux Berquin was completely successful, and has given us some high ground and two farms which have been converted into strong machine-gun posts. Our casualties were light.

Although the enemy resisted with considerable obstinacy, our raid east of Tilloy on the night of June 1st was a most daring enterprise. We penetrated more than a thousand yards and entirely cleared out 400 yards of German trenches, bombing all the dugouts and blowing up a heavy trench-mortar which had been troublesome. Prisoners estimate that an entire German company was wiped out.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

REINFORCEMENTS STIFFEN THE LINE.

London, June 3rd.
8.45 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing at mid-night on the 2nd inst., states:—The past week has brought many unwelcome surprises and hours of acute anxiety, for which no blame can be attached to the troops. If the Front now shows a tendency to stabilise it is because the arrival of reinforcements has stiffened the line to a point at which it is physically possible to hold. Up to Sunday we could only hold the enemy from hour to hour. The Germans are unable to manoeuvre and go round obstacles, and their numerical advantage vanishes from day to day. We have now arrived at the stage at which the formation of a continuous line forces the Germans to attempt mass attacks against strongly-held positions instead of turning them.

La Ferte-Milon, the birthplace of Haig, was bombarded, and the shells are beginning to fall on Villers-Cotterets. Our aviators regained the ascendancy during June 1st. The following night they dropped 63 tons of explosives on German communications and troops. On May 30th an enemy column three miles long was attacked by 50 aeroplanes, which, flying low, machine-gunned, bombed and dispersed the troops over the neighbouring fields.

Sixteen German planes were brought down on the battlefield, besides a large number of balloons, five of which were destroyed in the Rheims sector in one day.

This evening's reports are more hopeful than any since the beginning of the battle. For the first time since May 27th the enemy has not gained ground during the day. On the front facing the west, in the direction of Paris, where attack and counter-attack followed in quick succession, the gains of the Germans were at least counter-balanced by those of the French. In the centre the enemy extended his front on the north bank of the Marne, which is still bounded by Chateau Thierry, which was evacuated some days ago, and Vermeuil.

Between Vermeuil, north of the Marne, and Rheims the line runs practically straight north-east. There are no changes of importance in this direction, except around Rheims, where the Germans have drawn the line closer. To-day, as yesterday, the fighting was the hardest on the Western Front. The German advance is along the eastern border of Villers-Cotterets Forest and southward between the valleys of the Ourcq and the Marne.

The thick forest, which favours the German tactics of infiltration, is traversed east to west by two well-defined valleys along which runs the railways from Soissons to Fismes. Entering the forest at Longpont and Troennes a small tributary of the Ourcq joins these two points. Along this stream a hotly-contested battle raged all day. In another round Longpont-Corcy-Faverolles-Troennes the fighting was terribly bitter, and again, and were held in spite of all the efforts of the enemy. Our counter-attacks enabled the line of villages fronting the forest to be maintained.

Troennes was retaken by counter-attack. A new German division was identified in this fighting, relieving a Guard division which had suffered heavily in the opening days of the battle.

South of the Ourcq the fighting was almost equally obstinate. The village of Passy-en-Vallois and Hill 163 were taken by the Germans early in the morning, but were recaptured later in the day. On the whole the enemy has nothing to show for the day's work on the Western Front.

The German line round Rheims, beginning at St. Leonard on the Aisne-Marne Canal, three miles south-east of the city, passes through Betheny to north of Trois-Fontaines to the north-west, thence south-west between the suburb of St. Brice and the main town to La Honquette. None of these places, except St. Leonard, is more than a mile from the city of Rheims, which is surrounded east, north and west by fully three-quarters of an armed circle round the city held by the Germans, but nothing worth preserving is left in Rheims but the Cathedral.

EARLIER CABLES.

DETAILS OF EARLY FIGHTING.

London, June 3rd.
2.45 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing yesterday, gives the following details of the first day's fighting north of the Aisne, which are important because of the light they throw on the swift British and French retreat in the early hours of May 27th. It has been already explained that the British held the front from Craonne to Berniercourt, crossing the Aisne at Berry-au-Bac. The left of our line, formed by the 50th Territorial Division, held the California Plateau, immediately above Craonne.

On our left the line was carried on by a French Division, which already held a very extended front along the Chemin-des-Dames. The probability of a German attack in this sector was fully recognised, but the enemy gave no sign of his intention until a bombardment began on May 27th. Bad weather had hindered aeroplane observation work along the Aisne since March. The truth is, it was not necessary for the Germans to make noticeable preparations. They knew this front was lightly held, and they estimated accurately the number of troops they would require to ensure the indispensable initial success. Then they poured in streams of fresh divisions to pursue their advantage, but von Hutier's method of attack makes it superfluous for the troops required to exploit a victory to appear on the battlefield until quite sure of an opening in the attack succeeded.

On the front such as the Germans held, it was constructed to shelter a far larger number of troops than actually occupied it. It was not difficult for the enemy to put in the number of divisions necessary for the attack without fresh digging close to the front, which would inevitably have revealed his purpose. To understand what followed, it must be remembered that the French front under Chemin-des-Dames in the Ailette valley, as well as the crest itself, was in full view of the German artillery observers on the opposite line of heights. The position of the French trenches was well-known to the Germans. The French front was attacked in greater density than ours.

The enemy infantry suffered heavily from our machine-gun fire in crossing the valley, but it was in too great strength to be held back thereby, and was on the crest practically in a stride. They now crossed the crest by the narrow neck uniting the California and Vandœuvre Plateaux. Anyway, the first intimation of their presence that the British Division had was the sudden appearance of a German column in their rear making its way down the steep slope to Craonne.

The retreat was inevitable. The British and French line fell back to the river bank, fighting as they went, in order to save the unity of the line. The British 50th and 8th divisions were swamped by the weight of the German numbers and lost heavily.

On the right south of the river the 21st Division and neighbouring French Division held firm. The British 25th division, which was in reserve, sent up supports early in the day, so that all the British troops on the Aisne front participated in the battle.

All the British Divisions, also the French Divisions holding Chemin-des-Dames, had been engaged and suffered heavily in the battles in Picardy and Flanders. As the retreat continued under attack from the fresh stream of German divisions our line became alarmingly thin, but reinforcements arrived in the evening and the line was reconstituted. Since then we have practically given no ground, although constantly engaged with the enemy, and the weight of the German attack has shifted to the other wing of the battle between Soissons and Chateau Thierry. The same French Division which began the battle on our right close to Berniercourt is still holding with us after a week of incessant fighting.

LONG-RANGE BOMBARDMENT OF PARIS.

Paris, June 3rd.
The long-range bombardment of Paris has been resumed.

REFUGEES FROM THE BATTLEFIELD.

Paris, June 3rd.
One hundred and twenty thousand refugees from the battlefield have passed through Paris in four days.

ALLIED REINFORCEMENTS HEAVILY FELT.

Paris, June 2nd.
A *Havas* Correspondent in the French Front, telegraphing on the evening of June 1st, says the fighting is proceeding with unequalled bitterness but the weight of our reinforcements is beginning to be heavily felt. The German advance between Rheims and Chateau Thierry is held, while our resistance is beginning to be victorious between Soissons and the Marne. The Germans are also beginning to throw in new divisions, of which 15 were identified on May 30th, not including reserves. Valiantly aided by British divisions we are now combating a formidable assault by over 45 divisions. It is no longer doubtful that Germany again seeks on this new battlefield the decision which has always escaped her.

ENEMY'S STOPPAGE PREDICTED.

London, June 2nd.
The Paris Deputy Daubigny, member of the Army Commission, has returned from the front. He informed *Le Figaro* that Generalissimo Foch told him that "in the offensive on March 21st it required from 8 to 10 days to re-establish the situation. The present offensive began on Monday, and we, therefore, were at the sixth day. So you may draw your own conclusions."

This is interpreted as meaning that Generalissimo Foch reckons that in a few days the enemy will be stopped and the situation re-established.

ENEMY ADVANCE SLOWS DOWN.

London, June 3rd.

The story of the fighting during the past two days is a story of heroic and increasing French resistance to the desperate German rush. The enemy shifted the direction of the attack from south to west, apparently now not intending to cross the Marne, and though repeated French counter-attacks come nearer arresting the advance than at any time since the battle began, they have not arrested it. The immediate point of danger is the Noyon-Soissons-Chateau Thierry line, where the fiercest fighting is proceeding. At the end of the week, the enemy advance had greatly slowed down, thanks chiefly to the tenacity with which the defenders clung to the outskirts of Soissons, which are the key positions. The German forces are closely packed round Soissons and are unable to debouch from the place.

If the French can hold here a little longer their reserves, whose weight is beginning to be felt, should turn the scale and bring the enemy to a standstill.

Some English experts are of opinion the enemy is conducting the Marne offensive on such a scale that it is doubtful whether he will be able to manage another offensive simultaneously. Others think that a further German advance would be very risky with the powerful French armies in Champagne and Argonne in the rear. Others, again, consider that General Ludendorff, having secured his flank, may continue attempts in the direction of Amiens.

The view which Paris is one of optimism and confidence. It is pointed out that the sudden check of the enemy advance is most remarkable, coming on the fifth day compared with the ninth day of the offensive in March, but the opinion is held that the Crown Prince may be calling a halt in order to await the arrival of delayed reserves, and with 40 Divisions of enemy reserves still unengaged it behoves Generalissimo Foch to employ his reserves very cautiously, otherwise while at grips with the enemy he may find himself held up at another point.

The general view in Paris is inclined to be optimistic. A semi-official commentator declares that if complete stabilisation is not yet achieved, at least the strategic balance is turning in favour of the Allies.

GERMAN VICTORY ONLY ATTAINABLE BY SLOW STAGES.

It is noteworthy that the extent of the German advance is less than the battle of two months ago, but the capture of prisoners claimed by the Germans is roughly about the same. Thus, despite the enemy's great advantages in numbers and strategic position, the surprise of the second stroke is much less damaging to the Allied strength, which it is the enemy's chief object to break. Hence, the warning that is now being given to the German public that victory is only attainable by slow stages.

GERMAN COLONEL'S ADMISSION.

Amsterdam, June 3rd.
Writing in the *Volk's Gazette*, a German Lieut-Colonel, who has participated in the battle, admits that the losses of some German attacking units were very heavy.

THE SITUATION SUMMED UP.

ENEMY'S LOSSES TO MAY 1ST
ESTIMATED AT 600,000.

SHANGHAI, June 8th.

At Peking on June 1st the following telegram, summing up the situation on the French front, compiled from the last communications of the French Ministry of War, was handed to Reuter's Agency by the French Minister. The great offensive started by the Germans on March 21st was imposed upon them by circumstances. They must by all means reach a decision before help from America—the weight of which has already made itself seriously felt—has given the Allies overwhelming numerical and material superiority. The defection of Russia has given Germany the means necessary for this supreme effort. The objective aimed at by the Allied command during the present enemy offensive is to destroy the power of the adversary and wear him out while keeping intact all that with the united efforts of the Allies will make our victory of to-morrow certain, rapid, and decisive.

In the first phase of the great offensive from March 21st to May 1st, the Germans realised some gains of territory at the cost of losses estimated on May 1st at about 600,000. Between Ypres and Arras they reached a line east of Ypres, west of Bailloult, west of Merville, east of Bethune. Between Albert and Noyon they reached a line Albert, Villers-Bretonneux, Moreuil, west of Montdidier, east of Noyon. All the enemy's efforts were smashed on this line, and as early as May 1st the attacking initiative on these fronts passed to the Allies. Following this first check the Germans regrouped about 50 divisions behind the front Soissons-Rheims, of which only 30 could be considered fresh, and launched on this front a new offensive on May 21st. The Allied front was bent but nowhere broken. Our losses in men and material have been far less than the enemy's. The great reserves at the disposal of our Generalissimo are still intact, and the advance realised by the enemy in this second phase of the contest is definitely checked. More than 50 German divisions out of 80 at their disposal have already been engaged on this front. Between Noyon and Rheims the line now runs east of Noyon, west of Soissons, east of Villers-Cotterets, north of Chateau Thierry, north-west and north-east of Rheims. The Allies are expecting shortly a new enemy attack between Noyon and Albert. The high Allied command views the coming operations with full confidence.

Aerial Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

VATICAN THANKS GREAT BRITAIN.

Rome, June 2nd.

The Vatican has thanked Great Britain for the willingness with which she accepted the proposals not to bombard Cologne during the Corpus Christi celebrations.

QUESTIONS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, June 3rd.

In the House of Commons, replying to questions regarding the Government's agreeing to the request of the Vatican not to bombard Cologne on Corpus Christi Day, Mr. Bonar Law stated that the appeal of the Vatican was received by the British and French Governments. The reply, in the terms already announced, was sent after consultation and in agreement with the French Government. The staff of the Air Ministry was also consulted. The action of the Germans in shelling Paris, despite our undertaking, will not be forgotten in the event of any similar appeal being made in future.

Mr. F. Hall—Did the Germans undertake that aircraft used in protecting the back areas would not be used for bombing hospitals and troops on Corpus Christi Day?

Mr. Bonar Law replied: The Air Minister was of opinion that German aircraft would not be so used if only because the notice was too short for an expedition to be made.

Replying to further questions, Mr. Bonar Law said that the decision was taken by the War Cabinet after a full consideration of all the relevant facts.

Mr. H. W. C. Carr-Gomm—Was the attention of the Vatican drawn to the Whitsun air-raid on London on Good Friday and the bombardment of Paris?

Mr. Bonar Law: No. Obviously the Government would have been fully justified, in view of the Whitsun air-raid, in refusing altogether to consider the appeal. It seemed a peculiar example of the German mentality that such a request should be submitted by the Germans after what had occurred, but although it was an impudent request it did not follow that it was an unwise British decision.

Mr. Herbert L. Samuel—Were the Germans asked reciprocally to spare places behind the British and French lines?

Mr. Bonar Law: No. Had we made such a request it would have implied that we were making a bargain. We were not making a bargain, but doing what we thought right.

Mr. A. Frederick Whyte—Has the Vatican made any representations to Germany regarding the bombardment of Paris on Good Friday?

Mr. Bonar Law replied: We are unaware that the Vatican has done so, but we drew the attention of the Vatican to the bombardment of Paris on Corpus Christi Day.

Lord Robert Cecil, in the course of a speech at Hitchin, said the decision not to bomb Cologne on Corpus Christi Day was not a decision of the Foreign Office, but of the Cabinet as a whole. In view of the bombardment of Paris on the same day the Government will look very differently in future on requests of the same nature.

GERMANS BOMB HOSPITALS AND REST CAMPS.

PARIS, June 2nd.

German aeroplanes have been very active recently bombing the rear, especially hospitals and rest camps. Five persons were killed and ten wounded by a bomb at the camp at Villers-Cotterets on May 27th. Numerous aeroplanes returned in the evening. The first bomb fell on a hospital canteen, when a nurse was buried in the ruins.

A party of nurses and Territorials belonging to the camp staff was bombarded mercilessly till three in the morning. The aircraft descended very low, and the nurses took refuge in a corn field and sheltered under the trees, round which they moved continually as the aircraft circled above.

Other aeroplanes arrived at daybreak, but French aeroplanes soon arrived and dispersed the raiders, felling five of them.

THE AIR-RAID ON PARIS.

PARIS, June 2nd.

This morning's air-raid was the 37th "Gotha" raid on Paris.

The barrage was one of the most violent yet put up.

It is reported that only one "Gotha" penetrated the defences.

Four persons were seriously injured. A huge abandoned "Gotha" was captured near Prevent, Pas-de-Calais, on May 29th. Some of the crew were captured later.

THE ATTACK ON ZEEBRUGGE.

AMSTERDAM, June 3rd.

The *Telegraaf's* Frontier Correspondent states that the aerial attack on Zeebrugge, called on May 31st, partially destroyed the De Jaeger Works, which are engaged in repairing guns and sorting ammunition.

A number of soldiers and a few civilians were killed.

The Zeebrugge sluices are not yet properly capable of being used.

DESTROYER BRINGS DOWN ZEPPELIN.

COPENHAGEN, June 2nd.

It is reported that west of Jutland, on June 1st, a British destroyer brought down a Zeppelin in the North Sea.

EFFECTIVENESS OF ALLIED AIR-RAIDS.

AMSTERDAM, June 3rd.

The effectiveness of the Allied air raids in Germany is further illustrated by the attendance at a meeting of the Cologne Town Council of the Chief of Staff of the German Air Forces, who explained why warning was not given until too late. He also made a statement in answer regarding the damage done by the Allied air raids in West Germany.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

"U-BOAT" ATTACKS IRISH FISHING FLEET.

London, June 3rd.

A U-boat, on Thursday night, attacked an Irish fishing fleet off the coast of County Down and sank 12 boats. Only the fact that the pirate was interrupted in the work and submerged prevented the destruction of the whole fleet of 40 boats. The outrage has caused indignation in County Down.

The Balkans.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GREEK VICTORY IN MACEDONIA.

ATHENS, June 3rd.

The Greek victory in Macedonia resulted in the capture of the Dounele range of steep heights, which was a veritable fortress with deep tunnels defended by machine-guns.

In every direction the Bulgarians were surprised, the Greeks being upon them as soon as the barrage lifted.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

HIS MAJESTY'S CONFIDENCE.

London, June 4th.

Replying to birthday congratulations from Sir Douglas Haig, His Majesty said: "In these days my heart is more than ever with the troops. I know how splendidly they are now fighting. Come what may the national spirit will carry us through to a triumphant end."

THE DOUBLE INCOME-TAX.

London, June 3rd.

In the House of Commons, in Committee on the Finance Bill, Mr. Bonar Law, replying to the amendments regarding the double income-tax, said the present position should not be maintained a single day after the war, but it could not be dealt with at present. He said that frequently the amount received by investors in Dominion stock was higher, despite the double tax, than was obtainable from investments in the United Kingdom. He undertook that the matter should be discharged by the Dominion Prime Ministers at the approaching Conference.

Mr. Bonar Law, in the course of his comments on the double income-tax, said the war was going to leave a financial burden which would outlast many generations. What had to be considered was how each part of the Empire would bear its own burden, and, having regard to the immense natural resources of the Dominions, he thought they would be better able to bear their share than the Mother-Country would be able to bear hers.

EARLIER CABLES.

INSURRECTION IN TURKISH ARMY.

ATHENS, June 3rd.

The insurrection is spreading to Aidin, south-east of Smyrna.

An entire regiment at Konis refused to go to Palestine and seized the artillery and took refuge in the mountains. They annihilated the troops sent against them.

BRITAIN HAS NEVER LOST A WAR.

AMSTERDAM, June 2nd.

Writing in the Berlin *Tagblatt* on the anniversary of the battle of Jutland, the well-known naval critic, Captain Persius, says: "It is opportune again to realise how serious Great Britain must be taken as an enemy. She has never yet lost a war. She has triumphed at the end of every campaign. Statements such as that a second Skagerrak would shatter British naval domination merely anger German naval men, many of whom have already found the British brave and strong opponents, and who know that our utmost strength will be needed to beat them off in the event of another encounter."

TAX ON LUXURIES.

London, June 3rd.

In the House of Commons, the luxury tax proposals were deleted from the present Budget. Mr. Bonar Law undertaking to bring in a separate bill concerning them.

(Continued on Page 6.)

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HAIPHONG ...	"TAKSANG" ...	Thurs., 13th June, 7 a.m.
MANILA ...	"LOONGSANG" ...	Thurs., 13th June, 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI ...	"WINGSANG" ...	Thurs., 14th June, 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI ...	"ESANG" ...	Sun., 16th June, 11 a.m.
SANDAKAN ...	"MAUSANG" ...	Wed., 19th June, Noon.
MANILA ...	"YUENSANG" ...	Wed., 19th June, 3 p.m.

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THE WAR.

(Continued from Page 5.)

General.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY]

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN SOCIALISTS IN CONFERENCE

AMSTERDAM, June 3rd.
At Vienna the Conference of Austro-Hungarian Socialists, which was attended by delegates from everywhere in the Monarchy, resolved upon demanding the immediate convocation of the Reichsrath and its consideration of the Brest-Litovsk and Bukharest Treaties, which the Conference considers are a violation of the principles of peace by understanding. The Conference further resolved upon requesting the Governments of the Central Powers to offer a general peace on the basis of firstly, the establishment of a League of Nations, with general disarmament, the institution of international arbitration courts; secondly, renunciation of annexations and indemnities west, south, east and south-east; thirdly, the grant of full self-determination to border peoples torn from Russia.

GERMAN PEACE TALK.

LONDON, June 2nd.
Peace talk is again in full swing in Germany. *Kreuz Zeitung* and *Vorwaerts* both urge the Government to publicly state its war aims. *Kreuz Zeitung* says the demands should be confined to safeguarding Germany's vital interests and that the German military successes would strengthen the effect of a peace offer at present. *Vorwaerts* says the offer should be such as would really lead to peace forthwith. The paper affirms that *Kreuz Zeitung's* demand really amounts to utilising the German successes to bind the Government permanently to its annexation programme, in view of the Pan-German demands for a huge indemnity and annexations east and west and a Colonial Empire in Africa, etc.

THE ENTENTE SOCIALISTS MEMORANDUM.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS' ATTITUDE.

AMSTERDAM, June 2nd.
At a meeting of the German Socialist Party on May 31st, Herr Ebert said a copy of the Entente Socialists' Memorandum had just been received indirectly. The attitude of the German Socialists to it was laid down in a Memorandum regarding the Stockholm Conference, which was unanimously approved by the last Party Congress. The German Socialists were always ready to participate in a conference of all the Socialist Parties and to negotiate with them on the basis of the Stockholm Memorandum. The Entente Socialists' war aims largely accorded the annexationist aims of their Governments. The meeting issued a resolution in favour of a general peace by understanding on the basis of the Reichstag Resolution of July 19th last year.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

BRITISH DELEGATION.

LONDON, June 3rd.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that the Home Secretary (Sir George Cave), Lord Newton and General Belfield will be the British Delegates to The Hague, with wide discretion, in connection with the exchange of war prisoners.

AMERICA AND THE WAR SOCIETY LEADER SENTENCED UNDER ESPIONAGE LAW.

KANSAS CITY, June 3rd.
Mrs. Rose-Astor Stokes, wife of a New York publicist and millionaire, James Phelps Stokes, has been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in the penitentiary under the Espionage Law. She has long been a picturesque figure in the Socialist movement.

THE RED CROSS FUND.

WASHINGTON, June 3rd.
The Red Cross Fund totals \$170,000,000, compared with the \$100,000,000 requested.

CONDITIONS IN SIBERIA.

LONDON, June 3rd.
The *Daily Mail's* Correspondent, at Tokio states that the view of competent circles is that, while the decision to intervene in Siberia remains in abeyance, immediate steps should be taken to help the Siberian population with the necessary commodities, like boots and clothing, before the Germans do so.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

EXPULSION OF RUSSIANS FROM FINLAND.

MOSCOW, June 2nd.
The Finnish Government has decreed upon the immediate expulsion of Russians under penalty of fine or imprisonment.

COSSACKS HANG BOLSHEVIK COMMISSIONER.

MOSCOW, June 3rd.
Anti-Soviet Cossacks have hanged the President of the Bolsheviki Commissioners in the Don Republic, who was the chief organiser of the Cossack movement against Kaledin.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, June 3rd.
The silver market is quiet. There are no silver demands.

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THE BANK AMALGAMATIONS

LONDON, June 3rd.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law stated that the recommendations of the Committee on bank amalgamations will be carried out legislatively. Meanwhile the Committee, including Lord Inchcape, would advise regarding the desirability of any postponed amalgamation schemes.

HOLLAND AND GERMANY. GERMANY NOTIFIED OF CONVOY'S DEPARTURE.

LONDON, June 4th.
The Netherlands Government has announced that a convoy consisting of the *Comet*, carrying Government officials of the Dutch Indies, army officers, Government supplies, and the *Bengalia* as a coaler, escorted by the battleship *Hertog* *Taban*, will sail from Texel about the middle of June for the Dutch Indies via the Cape.

The warships will carry only military personnel and military stores, no mails will be carried, and no search of the convoy will be tolerated, but the usual formalities regarding the showing of papers will be observed in the event of meeting a belligerent warship.

GERMANY GRANTS SAFE- CONDUCT.

THE HAGUE, June 3rd.
After a protracted delay, Germany has granted safe-conducts to two steamships to proceed to America in exchange for vessels of similar tonnage from America carrying foodstuffs in accordance with the United States' offer when the Dutch shipping was overtaken.

GERMAN INHUMANITY.

LONDON, June 3rd.
Joseph Mason, a fisherman of Boston, who has been repatriated from Germany, after 14 months' captivity, having lost both hands as the result of German inhumanity, tells a terrible tale of submarine atrocity. He was fishing in a trawler on April 6th, 1914, when a German submarine fired between 40 and 50 shots, after which she sank the trawler and put the crew of 10 in a small boat in mid-ocean. There were heavy seas and the boat drifted helplessly. It was bitter cold, blowing half a gale and drenching rain. They were picked up after five nights of awful sufferings. The other nine died from exposure. Mason was the only survivor and was badly frostbitten. He was captured by a second German submarine.

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SHANGHAI	"SUAGIANG"	On 11th June Noon.
SHANGHAI	"SUNNING"	On 13th June, 3 P.M.
TIENTSIN	"HUICHOW"	On 14th June, Noon.
SHANGHAI	"SINKIANG"	On 15th June, 3 P.M.

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